

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Atchafalaya

*National Wildlife Refuge
Bird List*



Walter Clifton
wood thrush



*Walter Clifton
prothonotary warbler*

Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge (including Sherburne WMA)

Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 540 national wildlife refuges, managing over 94 million acres of land. The refuge is adjacent to the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. Public use is managed through a cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. P.O. Box 127, Krotz Springs, LA 70750, 337/566 2251.



*Walter Clifton
eastern kingbird*

Located in St. Martin and Iberville Parishes, the refuge is 30 miles west of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1 mile east of Krotz Springs, Louisiana and just east of the Atchafalaya River. To access from Interstate 10, take the Whiskey Bay Exit onto highway 975 (gravel road) nine miles north to the management area headquarters. From Highway 190, exit at the east toe of the Atchafalaya River Levee on Hwy 975. Head south for 2.5 miles to the management area headquarters.



*Walter Clifton
wood duck*

Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge was established by Congress on October 26, 1984 (Public Law 98-396) with money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service purchased 15,220 acres in 1986 from the Iberville Land Company. The refuge's name originated from its location within the Atchafalaya River Basin, the largest bottomland swamp in the USA.

The climate is mild with subtropical weather throughout the year. Average rainfall is approximately 54 inches.



*USFWS
great egret*

The refuge manages for any and all threatened and endangered wildlife and plants that inhabit the refuge including the American Bald Eagle and Louisiana Black Bear. Secondary management is for waterfowl and other migratory birds, all other indigenous wildlife, and to provide



Walter Clifton
tufted titmouse



Walter Clifton
yellow-crowned
night heron



Walter Clifton
belted kingfisher



Nancy Camel©
little blue heron



Donna Bush©
swallow-tailed kite

wildlife oriented recreation,
education, and demonstration.

Opportunities exist for bird-
watching on the refuge. The refuge
was identified as a Globally
Important Bird Area by the
American Bird Conservancy. The
bottomland hardwood forests and
the mix of bayous, oxbow lakes,
sloughs, and swamps create a
diversity of habitats important to a
wide range of bird species.
Neotropical migrants abound during
the fall and spring migrations, and
many species nest on the refuge. The
refuge supports a number of small
wading bird rookeries. Each winter,
several thousand waterfowl make
their home on the refuge. Wood
Ducks are common summer nesters.

The Swallow-tailed Kite nests on the
refuge.

The following bird list contains 206
species, representing observations
by refuge and state WMA personnel,
local birders, researchers, and
volunteers.

**Sightings of unlisted species should be
reported to:**

Refuge Manager,
Southeast Louisiana Refuges
61389 Highway 434
Lacombe, Louisiana 70445

Seasons

SP-Spring	March-May
S-Summer	June-July
F-Fall	August-November
W-Winter	December-February

Habitat where found (H)

W -	Open water
S -	Swamp
F -	Field
M -	Marsh/Mud flat
A -	Aerial/flyover
f -	forest
s -	scrub-shrub
E -	forest Edge

a-abundant - Many individuals per day in appropriate habitat and season (> 100/day)

c-common - Certain to be seen in suitable habitat (10-100/day)

u-uncommon - Usually present in suitable habitat (< 10/day)

r-rare - Seen only a few times during a season (< 1/day)

o-occasional - Only seen every few years

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>H</i>
Grebes					
___Pied-billed Grebe	r		c	c	W
Cormorants					
___Double-crested Cormorant	c	o	c	c	W
Anhingas					
___Anhinga	u	c	u	r	W
Hérons & Bitterns					
___Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	c	S
___Great Egret	a	a	c	c	S
___Snowy Egret	c	c	c	u	S
___Little Blue Heron*	c	c	c	o	S
___Tricolored Heron*	c	a	r		S
___Cattle Egret	a	a	a	r	F
___Green Heron	u	u	u		S
___Black-crowned Night-Heron*	u	u	u	r	M
___Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	a	a			S
Ibises					
___White Ibis	a	a	c	c	M
___Roseate Spoonbill	o	o	o	o	M
Storks					
___Wood Stork*		u	c		M
American Vultures					
___Black Vulture	c	c	c	c	A
___Turkey Vulture	c	u	c	c	A
Waterfowl					
___Greater White-fronted Goose	o	r	o	o	W
___Snow (Blue) Goose	o	r	o	u	W
___Wood Duck	c	c	c	a	S
___Gadwall	u		r	u	W
___American Wigeon	u		u	c	W
___Mallard	c		c	c	W
___Blue-winged Teal	u	o	u	u	W

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>H</i>
___ Northern Shoveler	u		u	c	W
___ Northern Pintail	u		u	c	W
___ Green-winged Teal	r		o	o	W
___ Canvasback	r		r	u	W
___ Redhead	r		r	u	W
___ Ring-necked Duck	u		u	c	W
___ Lesser Scaup	c		c	c	W
___ Bufflehead	r		r	u	W
___ Hooded Merganser	u	r	u	c	W
___ Red-breasted Merganser	o		o	o	W
___ Ruddy Duck	c		c	c	W
Hawks					
___ Osprey	u	r	u	r	W
___ Swallow-tailed Kite*	u	u	u		A
___ Mississippi Kite*	a	a	c		A
___ Bald Eagle*	r		r	r	W
___ Northern Harrier*	u		u	u	F
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk*	u		u	u	f
___ Cooper's Hawk*	u		u	u	f
___ Red-shouldered Hawk	c	c	c	c	S
___ Broad-winged Hawk	c	u	c		f
___ Red-tailed Hawk	c	o	c	c	F
Falcons					
___ American Kestrel*	c		c	c	F
___ Merlin	o		o	r	F
___ Peregrine Falcon*	r		r	o	F
Turkeys					
___ Wild Turkey	c	c	c	c	F
Rails					
___ King Rail	c	u	c	c	S
___ Virginia Rail	u		u	u	M
___ Sora	u		u	c	M
___ Purple Gallinule	u	u	r		S
___ Common Moorhen (Gallinule)	u	u	r		M
___ American Coot	c		c	c	W
Plovers					
___ Black-bellied Plover	r		r		M
___ Semipalmated Plover	o		o		M
___ Killdeer	c	c	c	c	F
Stilts					
___ Black-necked Stilt	c	c	c	u	M
Sandpipers					
___ Greater Yellowlegs	c		c		M
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	u		u	u	M
___ Solitary Sandpiper*	u	r	u		S

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>H</i>
___Spotted Sandpiper	u		u	u	S
___Semipalmated Sandpiper*	u		u		M
___Western Sandpiper	r	r	r	r	M
___Least Sandpiper*	u		u	c	M
___Pectoral Sandpiper*	u		u	r	M
___Dunlin*	u		u	r	M
___Stilt Sandpiper*	r		r	r	M
___Wilson's Snipe	u		u	c	M
___American Woodcock	u	u	c	c	s
___Long-billed Dowitcher	r		r	r	M
Doves					
___Rock Dove				u	A
___Eurasian Collared-dove			o		A
___Mourning Dove	c	c	c	c	F
Cuckoos					
___Black-billed Cuckoo	r	r	r		s
___Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	c	c	c		s
Barn Owls					
___Barn Owl	o	o	o	o	F
Owls					
___Eastern Screech-Owl	u	u	u	u	f
___Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u	F
___Barred Owl	c	c	c	c	S
Nightjars					
___Common Nighthawk	c	u	c		A
___Chuck-will's-widow*	u		u		f
___Whip-poor-will*	o		o	o	f
Swifts					
___Chimney Swift	c	c	c		A
Hummingbirds					
___Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	c	c	c		E
___Rufous Hummingbird			u		E
Kingfishers					
___Belted Kingfisher	c	r	c	c	W
Woodpeckers					
___Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	u	r	f
___Red-bellied Woodpecker	c	c	c	c	f
___Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u		c	c	f
___Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c	f
___Hairy Woodpecker	u	u	u	u	f
___Northern Flicker	c	r	c	c	E
___Pileated Woodpecker	c	c	c	c	f

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>H</i>
Flycatchers					
___Olive-sided Flycatcher	o		o		f
___Eastern Wood-Pewee*	u		u		f
___Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			r		s
___Acadian Flycatcher	c	c	c		f
___Alder Flycatcher			u		S
___Least Flycatcher			u		s
___Eastern Phoebe	c		c	c	s
___Vermilion Flycatcher	r	r	r	r	E
___Great Crested Flycatcher	u	u	u		E
___Eastern Kingbird*	r	r	r		E
___Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	o				F
Vireos					
___White-eyed Vireo*	a	a	a	r	E
___Yellow-throated Vireo	u	u	r		E
___Blue-headed Vireo	u		u	c	f
___Warbling Vireo	o	o	o		f
___Philadelphia Vireo	r		u		f
___Red-eyed Vireo	a	a	a		f
Jays and Crows					
___Blue Jay	c	c	c	c	f
___American Crow	a	a	a	a	F
___Fish Crow	c	c	c	c	F
Swallows					
___Purple Martin	c	c	o		A
___Tree Swallow	c		c	c	A
___Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	c	u	c		A
___Bank Swallow	u		u		A
___Cliff Swallow	u	u	u		A
___Barn Swallow	c	u	c		A
Titmice					
___Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c	f
___Tufted Titmouse	c	c	c	c	f
Nuthatches					
___Red-breasted Nuthatch			o	o	f
Creepers					
___Brown Creeper	u		u	u	f
Wrens					
___Carolina Wren	a	a	a	a	s
___House Wren	u		u	u	s
___Winter Wren	u		u	u	s
Kinglets					
___Golden-crowned Kinglet	u		c	u	f
___Ruby-crowned Kinglet	a		a	a	s

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>H</i>
Gnatcatchers					
___Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	c	c	c	u	f
Thrushes					
___Eastern Bluebird	u	u	u	u	F
___Veery	u		u		f
___Gray-cheeked Thrush	u		u		f
___Swainson's Thrush	u		u		f
___Hermit Thrush	u		c	c	f
___Wood Thrush*	c	c	c		s
___American Robin	a		a	a	F
Shrikes					
___Loggerhead Shrike*	u	u	u	u	F
Mockingbirds and Thrashers					
___Gray Catbird*	c		c	u	s
___Northern Mockingbird	c	u	c	c	s
___Brown Thrasher*	u		u	u	s
Starlings					
___European Starling (exotic)	c	c	c	a	F
Pipits					
___American Pipit	u		u	u	F
Waxwings					
___Cedar Waxing	a		u	a	f
Wood Warblers					
___Blue-winged Warbler	u		u		s
___Golden-winged Warbler	r		r		s
___Tennessee Warbler	c		c		s
___Orange-crowned Warbler	u		u	c	s
___Nashville Warbler				u	s
___Northern Parula*	a	a			f
___Yellow Warbler	u	o	c		s
___Yellow-throated Warbler	u	u	r		S
___Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u		s
___Magnolia Warbler	u		c		s
___Yellow-rumped Warbler	a		a	a	s
___Black-throated Green Warbler	u		c		f
___Blackburnian Warbler	u		r		f
___Pine Warbler	r		u	u	f
___Prairie Warbler	o		r		s
___Palm Warbler*	o		u	u	F
___Bay-breasted Warbler	u		r		f
___Cerulean Warbler*	u				f
___Black-and-White Warbler	u		u	o	f
___American Redstart	a	a	c		f
___Prothonotary Warbler*	a	a	r		S
___Worm-eating Warbler*	u		u		s
___Swainson's Warbler*	c	c	r		s

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>H</i>
___Ovenbird	u		u		s
___Northern Waterthrush	u		u		S
___Louisiana Waterthrush*	u		u		S
___Kentucky Warbler*	c	c	u		s
___Mourning Warbler			u		s
___Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	c	s
___Hooded Warbler	c	c	c		s
___Wilson's Warbler	u		u	r	s
___Canada Warbler	r		u		s
___Yellow-breasted Chat*	a	a	c	o	s

Tanagers

___Summer Tanager	c	c	c		f
___Scarlet Tanager	u		u		f

Grosbeaks, Sparrows, Buntings

___Eastern Towhee	c	c	c	c	s
___Fox Sparrow	r		r	u	s
___Song Sparrow	u		u	c	s
___Lincoln's Sparrow	r		c	c	s
___Swamp Sparrow	c		c	c	M
___White-throated Sparrow	a		a	a	E
___White-crowned Sparrow	u		r	u	s
___Dark-eyed Junco	u		r	u	E
___Northern Cardinal	a	a	a	a	f
___Rose-breasted Grosbeak	u		u		f
___Blue Grosbeak	u	r	c	u	s
___Indigo Bunting	c	c	c		s
___Painted Bunting*	c	c	u		E
___Dickcissel*	u	r	u		F

Blackbirds and Orioles

___Bobolink		u			F
___Red-winged Blackbird	a	a	a	a	M
___Eastern Meadowlark*	c	c	c	c	F
___Rusty Blackbird*	u		r	u	S
___Common Grackle	a	a	a	a	F
___Brown-headed Cowbird	a	a	c	a	F
___Orchard Oriole*	u	u	o		s
___Baltimore Oriole*	u		u		f
___Purple Finch	u		r	u	f
___House Finch	u	o	u	u	F
___American Goldfinch	c		u	a	F

* Species of concern, due to declining populations

Ethics of Birdwatching

Take care not to disturb nesting birds, exposing eggs and young to extreme temperatures and predation.

Do not litter! Many birds die when they become entangled in fishing lines, 6-pack rings and other trash, or when they mistake garbage for food.



*Walter Clifton
yellow-billed cuckoo*

Sighting Notes

Date _____

Time _____

Weather _____

No. of species _____

Route or area _____

Observers _____

Remarks _____



*This goose, designed
by J. N. "Ding"
Darling, has become
a symbol of the
National
Wildlife Refuge
System.*

Southeast Louisiana Refuges
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Lacombe, Louisiana 70445
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

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CELEBRATING A
CENTURY
of CONSERVATION